

nevadaarts

NEWS

Grant Season Begins

WITH THE NEW YEAR

If it's the New Year, then it's the start of the Nevada Arts Council (NAC) grants season. Applications for FY16 annual grants will be accepted through the Grants Online™ system at: nac.culturegrants.org between February and April, depending on the category. New and returning applicants are encouraged to read the *FY16–FY17 Grants Guidelines* to review changes to several grant categories, submission deadlines and general policies. If you require a print version, please contact either NAC office. A series of grant panels will review eligible applications in public meetings to be scheduled in May and June. Questions? Please contact a member of our Grants Management Team at 775.687.6680.

Grant Changes + Modifications

The NAC is implementing changes and modifications to several grant categories in FY16 in response to suggestions made by panelists and constituents, staff analysis, and to achieve a variety of goals, which include:

- Making the process of applying for NAC funding less cumbersome
- Providing grantees a more integrated approach when applying for NAC grants
- Ensuring that public funds are distributed in a fair and balanced manner to support new and existing organizations throughout the state, while supporting NAC goals



CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

10TH ANNIVERSARY FOR POETRY OUT LOUD

It's the Tenth Anniversary of Nevada's Poetry Out Loud Program, a statewide initiative that has engaged more than 16,000 students during its first nine years.

Nearly 3,100 high school-aged students from public, private, charter, parochial and alternative schools, and home school associations in thirteen counties have signed up for the 2015 Nevada Poetry Out Loud (POL).

More than a dozen organizations, including Western Folklife Center, Sierra Arts Foundation, Las Vegas Poets, BattleBorn Slam and Nevada Humanities are creating poetry readings, slams and other events to celebrate this treasured Nevada arts and education program. KNPB Channel 5 will produce a Tenth Anniversary half-hour special to air during prime time in May and throughout the year.

POETRY
OUT LOUD

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

MEET THE 2015 ARTIST FELLOWS

The NAC Artist Fellowship Program was created in 1988 to encourage the pursuit of artistic excellence and raise the profile of Nevada's meritorious artists. These highly competitive awards provide visual, literary and performing artists funding to develop their work throughout the yearlong fellowship period. Each fellow provides a free public event, such as a reading, exhibition, performance or master class, relevant to his or her discipline.



CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

NAC NEWS

The Nevada Arts Council is a division of the Nevada Department of Tourism and Cultural Affairs.

Brian Sandoval, Governor, State of Nevada
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*Positions supported with a National
Endowment for the Arts grant.

GOODBYE & HELLO!

Changes for the NAC Board

After serving as a NAC Board Member for seven years, Stacy Endres stepped down in October to pursue literacy related work and record audio books with the Talking Books program of the Nevada State Library. A tireless advocate on behalf of Nevada's cultural workforce, Endres chaired numerous grant review panels. "Serving on the Nevada Arts Council Board has been such an enriching experience for me. I have had the wonderful opportunity to meet and work with a huge variety of artists and arts organizations, educators and administrators."

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Governor Sandoval appointed **Annie Zucker** as Endres' replacement. A development specialist for Renown Health Foundation, Zucker is only the second person to administer the Renown Healing Arts Program since the early 1990's. Zucker manages a cadre of more than 750 artists, musicians and volunteers, who engage with patients, perform for the public, maintain gardens and offer pet therapy to provide emotional support to patients and their families. A native Nevadan from Reno, Zucker received a BA in Liberal Studies from Oregon State University and certification in non-profit management from the University of Nevada, Reno. A member of the Global Alliance for Arts in Healthcare, Zucker is passionate about including art, music and environment in health and healing policy making. Under her direction, the Healing Arts Program at Renown Medical Center received a "Best Practice" recognition by the American Hospital Association in 2014.



NAC Welcomes New Staff



Michelle Lassaline joined the Artist Services Program as the Nevada Touring Initiative (NTI) Associate/Installer late last year. A fourth-generation Nevadan and a working artist, Lassaline received her BFA in Studio Art and BA in Spanish with a minor in Art History from the University of Nevada, Reno, in 2014. Her work has been exhibited at the Holland Project Gallery, McKinley Arts and Culture Center and the University Galleries of Reno; and she is a recent recipient of a Sierra Arts Foundation Professional Artist Grant. Lassaline replaces **Alana-lynn Berglund**. After two years as the NTI Associate/Installer, Berglund left the agency to pursue a career as an artist and explore new opportunities and adventures.

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NAC welcomes **Luciana "China" Hudson** as the Arts Learning Program assistant located in the Las Vegas office. She is a teaching artist in theater for the Smith Center for the Performing Arts, West Las Vegas Arts Center, and Cambridge and Walnut Community Centers in Las Vegas. Also a writer and director, Hudson is member of the Olabisi African Dance & Drum Ensemble. She previously worked with the Urban League's Family Development Department.



"Music is all around us. It is we who turn away."

—JOHN CAGE, COMPOSER





Nevada Heritage Awards Celebration

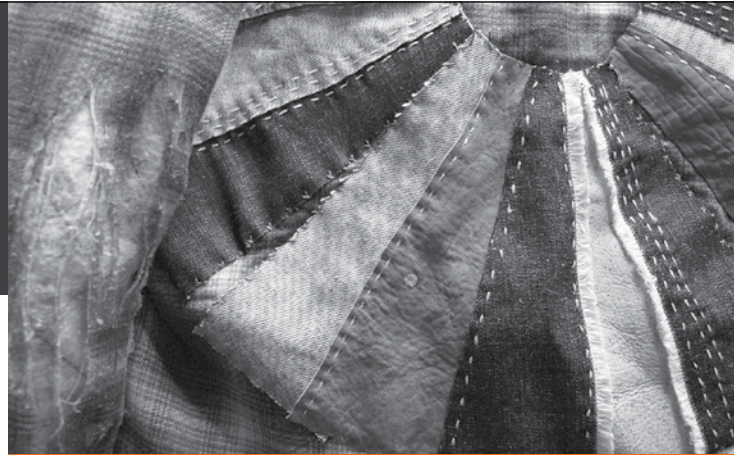
Two of Las Vegas' most respected traditional artists, Gary and Sheldeen Haleamau, received the 2015 Nevada Heritage Award on December 13, 2014, during "Pulama...to Cherish," the couple's yearly program of Hawaiian music and dance. NAC board member Irma Varela Wynants presented the award at the Winchester Community Center celebration. Along with a commemorative art piece, the Haleamaus received \$3,500 from the NAC to continue their work sharing and teaching cultural traditions of Hawaii in Las Vegas, often called "the Ninth Island" by Hawaiians in Southern Nevada. The Office of Living Arts, a community nonprofit organization, collaborated on the event. "Their performances are so authentic and warm. It was touching to see the young people dancing on the stage and the older generation in the audience singing along," Wynants said.

10th ANNIVERSARY FOR POETRY OUT LOUD Continued from front cover

After participating at the school and/or district level, semi-finalists head to Reno on March 14 for the Tenth Anniversary Nevada Poetry Out Loud State Finals at the Siena Hotel. Cash prizes totaling \$4,000 will be awarded to Nevada's first, second and third place winners and their respective schools. At the end of April, the Nevada State Champion competes at the National Finals in Washington, D.C. The National Champion receives \$20,000, with a total of \$50,000 in scholarship and school prizes awarded.

OXS EXHIBIT:

SARAH
LILLEGARD



*Nine Pound Hammer, Flannel jacket, leather and denim
18" x 18", 2014*

Second Skin: Mixed Media by Sarah Lillegard is featured in the Office eXhibition Series (OXS), February 2–April 17, 2015. Lillegard is a mixed-media artist whose work pulls from the traditions of handcrafts and western iconography. A NAC 2015 Artist Fellowship recipient in visual arts, Lillegard's work has been exhibited throughout the Northwest and Nevada.

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A public reception and artist talk is scheduled for Wednesday, February 18, 5–7:30 p.m. The OXS Gallery is located at the NAC Carson City office at 716 N. Carson Street, Suite A, and is open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m.–5 p.m.



*Persist, by Joseph Watson
Acrylic on wood, 12"x8", 2010*

LXS

LEGISLATIVE EXHIBITION SERIES

The 15th season of the Legislative eXhibition Series (LXS) will feature three painters, two mixed media artists and a basket maker. Created in 1985, LXS spotlights Nevada painters, photographers, sculptors and folk/traditional artists during the legislative session. Since the program's inception, 137 artists have been featured in the LXS Gallery, which is located on the first floor across from the Caucus Deli.

Artists for LXS 2015 were recommended by a committee composed of Nate Clark, visual artist and public art assistant, City of Reno; Bobbie Ann Howell, visual artist and program coordinator, Nevada Humanities; and Jennifer Messina, ceramic artist and member of Ely Art Bank.

2015 LXS EXHIBIT SCHEDULE

- **February 2–20, 2015:** Sande Rowan, Carson City, Basket Making
- **February 23–March 13, 2015:** Max Bunnell, Overton, Painting
- **March 16–April 3, 2015:** Anthony Arevalo, Reno, Mixed Media
 - **April 6–24, 2015:** Joseph Watson, Henderson, Painting
 - **April 27–May 15, 2015:** Dawn Dot Star, Ely, Painting
- **May 18–June 5, 2015:** Su Limbert, Las Vegas, Mixed Media



Jackpots Awarded

Fifteen Nevada artists, five arts organizations and two public institutions shared a total of \$21,379 in FY15 Second and Third Quarter Jackpot Grants. These quarterly grants support arts projects initiated by artists, schools, nonprofit organizations and public institutions. Congratulations go to:

Second Quarter Jackpot Grant Recipients:

- **Kathleen "Kristy Love" Brooks**, Las Vegas, \$800 – to support marketing and promotion of an original song, "All Over the World."
- **Gig Depio**, Las Vegas, \$1,000 – to support framing and preparation for "Reconstruction," an exhibit of oil paintings at the Winchester Community Center in January 2015.



Coup D'état by David Sanchez Burr
Interactive video and sound sculpture
2014

- **William "Troy" Heard**, Las Vegas, \$1,000 – to produce a theatrical production of a previously unpublished script by Jennifer Haley, "Breadcrumbs," at Las Vegas Little Theatre in October 2014.
- **Erik Holland**, Reno, \$1,000 – to frame and prepare 25 paintings for the "Hotels, Bars and Churches" exhibit at the Nevada Historical Society in Reno in January 2015.

- **Wendy Kveck**, Las Vegas, \$1,000 – to support photographic documentation of a new series of paintings and drawings for future proposals and marketing purposes.
- **Gina Quaranto**, Las Vegas, \$767 – to support framing and production of "Said the Moon to Her Lover Sea," an exhibit of 20–25 mixed media pieces for an exhibit at Blackbird Studios in Las Vegas in November 2014.

- **Carol Foldvary-Anderson**, Reno, \$805 – to support curriculum preparation for the applicant's oil pastel smudge method, and presentation of the curriculum at the 2015 Craft and Hobby Association Mega Show in Anaheim, CA, in January 2015.
- **Ghost Light Productions**, Elko, \$813 – to support production of *The Odd Couple*, opening February 19 at the Northeastern Nevada Museum.



Three Males in Prayer
by Cristina Paulos
Oil, acrylic, graphite,
conte charcoal, and
watercolor on paper
2014

- **David Sanchez Burr**, Las Vegas, \$1,000 – to present "Elements of New Citadel," an interactive kinetic and sound installation at the Emerge Art Fair in Washington, D.C., in October 2014.
- **Jon Shown**, Reno, \$325 – to support the creation of a short film about underground "guerilla" artists in Reno, which will be submitted to film festivals and competitions.
- **Clint Sleeper**, Reno, \$680 – to create a series of short films in remote locations on the theme of "teaching capitalism to the environment."

Third Quarter Jackpot Grant Recipients:

- **Carson City Library**, Carson City, \$933 – to support the second *Annual International Film Weekend* at the Carson City Community Center in February 2015.

- **Peter Goin**, Reno, \$1,000 – to support printing of seven large format photographs for a new exhibit, *A Suite of Seven Portraits*, which integrates Balinese narrative graphic pictographs with contemporary colorful costumes.
- **Great Basin College Student Services**, Elko, \$1,000 – to support performances by the Richter-Uzur Duo at the college and for community at-risk youth in March 2015.
- **Great Basin Heritage Area Partnership**, Baker, \$1,000 – to support a performance by Mary Kaye at the *12th Annual Shepherders' Gathering*, in January 2015.
- **Zoltan Janvary**, Reno, \$927 – to print and frame photographs for a solo exhibition, *Faces of War*, at the McKinley Arts Center in February 2015.
- **Las Vegas Flute Club**, Las Vegas, \$943 – to support artist fees for visiting artist Andrée Martin at Flute Day in February 2015.

Grants Corner CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

- **Melissa Melero**, Sparks, \$1,000 – to support the creation, framing and installation of a new mixed media painting exhibition, *The Basket Series*, at the Sierra Arts Gallery in March 2015.
- **Margaret (Mig) O'Hara**, Reno, \$847 – to create promotional recordings of original material at Abbey West Studio and Tanglewood Productions in Reno for future marketing purposes.
- **Clairissa Stephens**, Reno, \$943 – to create a body of multi-media work as an outgrowth of a residency studying the hydrology of closed water systems in the Great Basin.
- **TACH International, Inc.**, Reno, \$883 – to support artist fees for *East Meets West*, a world music concert featuring western harp and eastern Kachappi Veena (Indian Slide Guitar) in February 2015.
- **Women of Diversity Productions**, Las Vegas, \$853 – to support the new exhibition, *Nevada Women's Legacy – 150 Years of Excellence*, at the Nevada Legislature Senate in March 2015.

The deadline for FY15 Fourth Quarter Jackpot Grant applications is February 13, 2015, for projects between April 1 and June 30, 2015. NAC recommends that all Jackpot Grant applicants request an Advance Review. Feedback by staff on the narrative and budget sections and support material is provided to the applicant in time to meet the final submission deadline.



Grants Get You Where You Need to Go!

Encouraging the continuing education of Nevada's cultural workforce, Professional Development Grants (PDG) range from up to \$350 for NAC-sponsored activities to up to \$650 for attendance at regional or national events. During the first two quarters of FY15, NAC awarded 42 PDGs to artists, educators and arts administrators to attend a variety of conferences and other activities for career enhancement for a total of \$26,022. With PDG support, Nevada was represented at the Western Museums Association Annual Meeting in Las Vegas, NV; Western Arts Alliance Conference in Seattle, WA; and National Arts Educators Association Conference in New Orleans, LA, as well as others. PDG grants are available on a first-come, first-served basis so don't delay! Apply online at GO™ today.

Circuit Riders Provide Skilled Assistance

The Nevada Circuit Rider Program (NCR) provides grants of \$3,500 to eligible nonprofit organizations and public institutions to work with a NCR consultant on an organizational challenge. The following organizations have been awarded FY15 grants to support project-based NCR consultancies:

- **Contemporary Arts Center**, Las Vegas – to revise the organizational mission statement and assist with strategic planning.
- **Nevada Conservatory Theatre | UNLV**, Las Vegas – to assist the advisory board in defining new fundraising strategies, develop effective fundraising messages and establish achievable financial projections.
- **Sierra Arts Foundation**, Reno – to help develop a capital campaign strategy.
- **VSA arts of Nevada**, Reno – to provide a rebranding strategy that incorporates a new name for the organization.

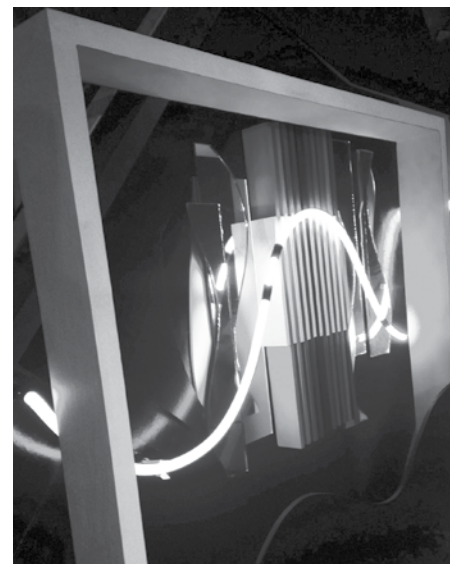
The Riverside Artist Loft in downtown Reno, NV, is home to the Sierra Arts Foundation.

THEN AND NOW: Works by Elaine Jason & Maria Arango-Diener

OXs featured Elaine Jason's neon pieces and Maria Arango-Diener's woodcut prints from November 10, 2014 to January 23, 2015.



Baile Del Sol, 2008, by Maria Arango-Diener
Woodcut print
44" x 34"



All That Jazz, 2012, by Elaine Jason
Neon, wood, and objects
34" x 48" x 7"

INTRODUCING THE 2015 ARTIST FELLOWS—Continued from front cover

2015 artist fellows



/// Nevada native **Chari Boom Brap** (Chariell Smith), formerly known as Knowledge, is a seasoned, award-winning songwriter and singer, with emceeing, producing and social activism

credits as well. *Knowledge Lives Forever*, her six-piece hip hop ensemble, has opened for Allen Stone, The Flobots, Sage Francis, DJ Quik, The Skatalites and Nappy Roots. When she's not on stage or in the studio, Smith spends time working for nonprofit community organizations and volunteering. Her mix of poise and recklessness, has garnered high praise and recognition, including *Made in Reno 2011 Competition Grand Prize Winner*, 2012 RAW Artist of the Year (Music Category); Best Local Rapper/*Reno News and Review* 2013; and Best Local Album/*Reno Gazette-Journal* 2011, 2012 and 2013.



/// **Sarah Lillegard** is a mixed-media artist whose work pulls from the traditions of handcrafts and western iconography. From a family of quilters and craftsmen, her process

relies on tactility and the physicality of the art-making process. Utilizing fibers, photo transfers and embroidery, Lillegard describes her work as focusing on belonging and how we derive a sense of self, specifically through faith-making and personal mythology. With a BA from Walla Walla University, Lillegard is immersed in the Reno arts community, co-founding the Go For Broke Zine Collective, self-publishing a DIY Guide to Reno, and as the former director of the Holland Project Gallery. In addition to working in fiber arts, Lillegard is also a zine maker, writer, curator and graphic designer; her work has been exhibited in the Northwest and Nevada.



/// **Pasha Rafat's** light constructions echo the work of a group of 20th century artists whose interest lay in real and physical phenomena, rather than illusory material. Of particular inter-

est to his work is the Russian Constructivists' stressing of transparency of material and the California Light & Space Artists' exploration of perceptual, spatial and atmospheric aspects of art. Born in Iran, Rafat has a BS in design from Arizona State University and an MA/MFA from California State University, Fullerton. A professor of art at UNLV, he teaches photography and multi-media courses including art in public places. His work has appeared in museums across the United States and Europe, Cypress and Turkey, and is included in permanent collections of the Museum of Contemporary Art, San Diego, CA and Center for Photography, Woodstock, NY among others.



/// **Jared Stanley** works as an interdisciplinary environmental artist in Reno, incorporating poetry, technology and sculpture in his work to explore how language mediates landscapes.

Stanley is the author of two full-length collections of poetry, *The Weeds* and *Book Made of Forest*, both published by Salt Publishing, as well as four chapbooks. He is working on a third collection, *Ears*. Stanley's poems have been published in journals large and small, in both the United States and Great Britain, and he has read his poetry all across the country, in bars, at universities, in churches, bookstores and living rooms. An English instructor at Sierra Nevada College, Stanley was a 2012–2014 Center for Art + Environment Research Fellow at the Nevada Museum of Art.



/// **Shana Tucker** is a singer/songwriter and cellist whose self-described "Chamber-Soul" style of music is an eclectic blend of soulful, jazz-influenced contemporary folk and acoustic

pop. Raised in Amityville, NY, she learned to play piano at an early age from her great-grandmother, who also was a beginner taking community center lessons. With musical studies completed at Howard University and Brooklyn College Conservatory of Music, Tucker's talents brought commissions for works performed at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C., the Joyce Theatre in NY, and the Witts Theater in Johannesburg, South Africa. In addition to touring, Tucker performs with Cirque du Soleil at the MGM Grand Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas, conducts workshops and residencies for grades K–12, and is working on her second recording project.



/// *A Map Predetermined and Chance* (Fence Books 2011), **Laura Wetherington's** first book, was selected for the National Poetry Series by poet C. S. Giscombe.

Her work has appeared in the *Colorado Review* and *Minnesota Review*, among other journals, in two anthologies and two chapbooks. She co-founded and co-edits textsound.org, an online journal of experimental poetry and sound. A graduate of University of Michigan's MFA program, UC Berkeley's Undergraduate English Department, and Cabrillo College, Virginia-native Wetherington has taught for the French Ministry of Education, University of Michigan, New England Literature Program and Eastern Michigan University. She teaches in Sierra Nevada College's undergraduate English and low-residency MFA programs, and is faculty advisor for the *Sierra Nevada Review*.

NEVADA NEWS

NevadaNotes

Denise Duarte views herself as a “catalyst for growth” in her new position as the Director of Development for the *Left of Center Gallery* in North Las Vegas. A native Nevadan and working artist, Duarte received an MFA in Community Arts from the Maryland Institute College of Art in Baltimore and served as the first Public Art Specialist for Clark County. In that position, Duarte secured a prestigious Our Town grant from the National Endowment for the Arts.

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Michael Ogilvie is the new Public Art Specialist for *Clark County*, a position funded by the Clark County Percent for Public Art Fund. Ogilvie oversees management of the County's existing public art, the commissioning of new public art works and providing of public art education programs. Previously, Ogilvie managed the Percent for the Arts Program for the City of Las Vegas' Office of Cultural Affairs.

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The **Nevada Museum of Art**, Donald W. Reynolds Center for the Visual Arts, E. L. Wiegand Gallery, received a \$1 million grant from The Robert S. and Dorothy J. Keyser Foundation to support art collections and family programs over the next ten years. The majority of the funds will go toward the newly named *Robert S. and Dorothy J. Keyser Art of the Greater West Collection*. The balance of the grant will support the Hands ON! Family Program.

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Earlier this summer, we bid a bittersweet adieu to **Bob Blesse**, director of the *Black Rock Press*, a book arts teaching and publishing program at the University of Nevada, Reno. After nearly 33 years at UNR, Blesse and his wife Victoria Davies now enjoy life in Florence, Italy. From 1981–2006, Blesse headed the UNR Library Special Collections Department and its rare book and manuscript program, and created the University's Book Arts Collection. Blesse received the 2001 Governor's Arts Award for Lifetime Contribution to the Arts. Replacing Blesse is Director of Graphic Arts **Inge Bruggeman**. **Amy Thompson** is the new Manager of the Black Rock Press.

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The *Nevada State Railroad Museum* welcomed **Greg Corbin** back to Carson City as its new director, after he served 16 years as the first director of the Nevada State Railroad Museum in Boulder City. “We went from accommodating a few hundred passengers per year to more than 41,000 two years ago,” Corbin said. Corbin's museum career started 33 years ago at the State Railroad Museum in Carson City.

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The **Capital City Arts Initiative** is the recipient of a \$50,000 grant from *The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts* for program support during 2015 and 2016. The Foundation's prestigious grants program supports a diverse array of projects and organizations around the country and abroad.

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Virginia City's **St. Mary's Art Center** received the 2014 *Comstock Award* for innovator of the year from the Northern Nevada Development Authority (NND). An annual program of the NND, the Pioneer Awards recognize outstanding businesses and individuals throughout the Sierra region.

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Reno Little Theatre (RLT) is celebrating its 80th season this year in style! As of January 1, the RLT staff went full-

time. Melissa Taylor, managing director; Chad Sweet, technical director; and McKenzi Swinehart, director of Programs and Development, will move into newly created office space in the upper level of the theater in early 2015.

RLT also announced a new partnership with **Ageless Repertory Theatre** (ART) beginning in the new year. Providing opportunities for senior citizen actors to explore and perform engaging plays for their peers during the weekday, ART will be housed in the RLT theatre.

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IN MEMORY OF OUR FRIENDS...



Georgia Neu, actor, administrator, educator and arts advocate, died on August 26, 2014. Originally from Ohio, Neu received her degree in musical theater at the University of Cincinnati, performed with the Cincinnati Players, and worked as an actress and dancer in New York. After moving to southern Nevada, Neu founded the Actors Repertory Theatre, the first equity theatre in Las Vegas.

She served as artistic director for thirteen years, acting in and directing numerous productions before the company closed its doors in 2001. She served as program director for Nevada Humanities from 2006–2009. In 2010, the Anti-Defamation League recruited Neu as the regional director of the “No Place for Hate” program. Neu was recognized for

her work by the Woman of Achievement, Women of Distinction, and Women of Diversity - 100 Women Who Shaped Las Vegas.

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Joy Brandt's commitment to Lander County was legendary as was her passion for the arts. She died August 19, 2014. Mary Works Covington, coordinator of the NAC Community Arts Development Program said, “Joy graciously welcomed me with open arms and helped me schedule an Arts Town Meeting in Austin. We were sad that due to health issues she wasn't able to join the meeting after she did so much to make it a success. I think she would be pleased to know that there are many more community members working toward bringing additional arts activities into Austin.”

NEA GRANTS IN NEVADA

The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) recently announced the awarding of \$29.1 million in 1,116 grants.

Chairman Jane Chu said, "...These new projects will continue to demonstrate the power the arts have to deepen value, build connections, and foster an atmosphere of creativity and innovation both at the community level and with individuals throughout the nation." Congratulations to Nevada's recipients:

- **Artown**, Reno, \$10,000 – to support the festival's annual free World Music/Dance Series that will feature performers such as Bajofondo (Argentina and Uruguay), Ragamala Dance (India and United States), and Las Cafateras (Mexico).
- **Capital City Arts Initiative**, Carson City, \$10,000 – to support an exhibition featuring the work of Katie Holland Lewis at the Carson City Courthouse Gallery. Lewis will also present artist talks for the community.
- **Nevada Museum of Art**, Reno, \$60,000 – to support *TAHOE*, an exhibition featuring 200 years of creative production inspired by America's second largest freshwater alpine lake. Works by Ansel Adams, Albert Bierstadt, and Dorothea Lange will be presented alongside contemporary works by artists such as Maya Lin, Chester Arnold and Phyllis Shafer that were commissioned in collaboration with the Tahoe Environmental Research Center at UC-Davis.
- **Sierra Nevada Ballet**, Reno, \$10,000 – to support performances of "The Peanutcracker: The Story in a Nutshell," a narrated and shorter version of "The Nutcracker" for young audiences. An interactive learning component is provided to classrooms to help prepare students for the performance, as well as free transportation and reduced rate or free tickets for underserved and low-income youth.

Read about Rural Tourism Grants on pg 10.

NEVADA LOCAL ARTS AGENCY NEWS



■ The North Las Vegas City Council has appointed Judith Pinkerton, Monica Armstrong, Gwendolyn Walker, Brian Kendall, Joseph Stamis and Carlos Ezeta to the new **North Las Vegas Arts and Culture Advisory Board**. Authorized earlier in the summer, the Arts and Culture Advisory Board is planning to hold its first meeting in February.

■ Two new community cultural inventories were completed with the assistance of a Nevada Circuit Rider grant and consultancy—one in Hawthorne and one for the four communities on "The Comstock." The **Mineral County Council on the Arts** in Hawthorne is using its inventory to expand community arts, and Healthy Communities Coalition of Lyon and Storey Counties will house the Comstock cultural inventory. While the four Comstock communities of Silver City, Dayton, Gold Hill and Virginia City explore the development of a regional arts council, the **Silver City Arts Group** emerged to serve its community. The group holds monthly meetings and has collaborated with St. Mary's Art Center and hosted a signature sesquicentennial event featuring artists, artisans and a holiday craft fair.

■ It was a blue-sky celebration as more than 100 community members gathered in Elko's City Park for the dedication ceremony for the *Sagebrush Sesquicentennial Sculpture*, created by Elko County native Susan Glaser Church using recycled Nevada fence posts. The sculpture is sited above a time capsule that will be opened in Elko on Nevada's 200th birthday. The Elko County Commission approved \$5,000 to support the project, which was facilitated by the **Elko Arts & Culture Advisory Board**.

■ **Carson Valley Arts Council** received a \$5,000 grant from the Community Foundation of Western Nevada to support Phase Two of its planning process to develop an arts presence in Minden's downtown district.

■ At the end of 2014, the **Carson City Cultural Commission** voted to recommend that the Board of Supervisors direct the commissioners to take the lead in the development of a Cultural Master Plan for the capital city. This includes producing the scope of work and implementation plan, and identifying sources of public and private funding. Members of the arts community voiced strong support for a cultural plan.

Young Poets RECOGNIZED

Congratulations to the winners of the 2014 *SPARK! Poetry Writing & Recitation Competition*. Nikayla Williams, a junior at Liberty High School, took first place; Michael Cordero, a senior at Laughlin High School, placed second; and Elliot James Rydell, a freshman at the Las Vegas Academy of the Arts, placed third. Williams was awarded \$300, with Cordero and Rydell receiving \$200 and \$100 respectively.

Spark!, coordinated by the NAC Arts Learning Program, invites Clark County high school-aged students to submit three original poems, which are scored by a panel composed of poets, educators and writers. This year, six semi-finalists recited two original poems at the fall Vegas Valley Book Festival, where a second panel selected the finalists.



2014 SPARK! winners:
Michael Cordero, Elliot James Rydell
and Nikayla Williams.

NATIONAL NEWS

+ Report from Washington, D.C.

No Budget Cut for the National Endowment for the Arts

President Obama and Congress approved a \$1.1 trillion budget to fund the federal government through the fiscal year to September 30, 2015. The budget bill, which passed narrowly in both chambers of Congress, funds the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) at its current level of \$146 million.

National advocacy efforts also helped to maintain level funding for the National Endowment for the Humanities at \$146 million. The Office of Museum Services will remain at \$30 million and the Arts in Education program within the U.S. Department of Education will stay at \$25 million, despite previous threats of being eliminated. Similarly, the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (PBS, NPR) will be level-funded at \$445 million. Congress also approved several policy provisions, notably legislation that reauthorizes Brand USA, a public-private partnership that helps generate international visits to the United States, aiding the cultural tourism sector.

Traveling with Musical Instruments

The U.S. Department of Transportation issued a final rule for flying musicians and the safety of their instruments, which goes into effect on March 6, 2015. The rule implements a law that Congress passed almost three years ago requiring the Federal Aviation Administration to establish regulations allowing musical instruments as carry-on luggage without any fees. The provision was supported by the national arts industry, which had long advocated for uniform regulations for the handling of musical instruments as carry-on luggage.

The Future of Charitable Giving Incentives?

A permanent extension of three charitable giving provisions, including the IRA Rollover to charities, did not occur. However, Congress passed a short-term version of these provisions, providing donor incentives through December 2015 only. Members of Congress, including Sen. John Thune (R-SD), have announced their intention to sponsor new legislation early in the new year to make these tax provisions permanent policy, coupled with comprehensive tax reform considerations, charitable tax deduction implications, and last date opportunities for year-end charitable donations.



Florida State Senator Don Gaetz receives the 2014 Public Leadership in the Arts Award from Sen. Debbie Smith and Jay H. Dick, Senior Director of State and Local Government Affairs, Americans for the Arts.

Nevada State Senator Elected to National Board

Nevada State Senator Debbie Smith (D-Sparks) was elected the 42nd President of the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL). "This organization has built such an impressive reputation over 40 years and I am honored to serve as president," Smith says, "...I know first-hand the important role NCSL plays in providing legislators, just like myself, with support, ideas and connections to help us lead in our own states." NCSL, a bipartisan organization that serves the nation's 7,383 state lawmakers and more than 20,000 legislative staff throughout the country, alternates its leadership between the two parties annually.

National Arts Action Needs You!



Join the united effort to advance the arts in America at the 2015 National Arts Advocacy Day in Washington, D.C., on March 23 and 24, 2015. On Monday, join hundreds of colleagues from across the country for interactive advocacy training and peer-to-peer learning and networking. That night, attend the 28th Annual Nancy Hanks Lecture on Arts and Public Policy at the Kennedy Center featuring Norman Lear, National Medal of Arts honoree. On Tuesday, after the Congressional Arts Kick Off, advocates meet with congressional representatives to discuss the importance of developing strong public policies and appropriating increased public funding for the arts.

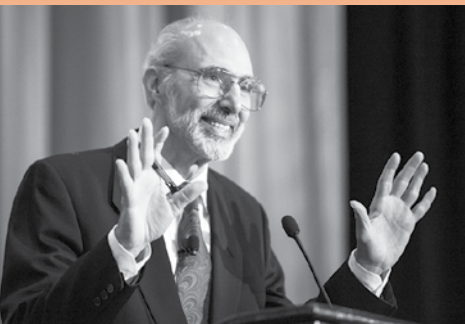
Apply for a NAC Professional Development Grant through GO™ and represent Nevada's arts industry at the 2015 Arts Advocacy Day. Register today at: americansforthearts.org.

"Imagination will often carry us to worlds that never were.

But without it, we go nowhere."

—CARL SAGAN, WRITER

KATZ Steps Down from NASAA



After nearly 30 years as CEO of the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies (NASAA), Jonathan Katz stepped down from his position immediately following the NASAA Assembly 2014 in New Orleans.

Kelly J. Barsdate, NASAA chief program and planning officer, was appointed as interim chief executive officer by the board while the search for the new CEO continues. Since joining NASAA in 1991, Barsdate has worked extensively with state arts agen-

cies, national networks and arts funders in the public and private sectors.

Katz said, "It has been my great privilege to serve as your CEO during the last three decades—a period of many transformations in the arts, among state arts agencies and at NASAA. Working with you gives me enormous personal pleasure and profound professional satisfaction—so much so that I've effortlessly postponed putting more energy into what has now become a demanding writing agenda. Also, my enjoyment of leadership development and strategic planning has never stopped growing. I'd like to invest more time and creativity in those pursuits in the future."

Katz is well known to many in Nevada as a facilitator and speaker at conferences and workshops, and as consultant to the NAC board and staff. We honor Katz by sharing one of his poems that we hope will soon be appearing in a collection of his work.

DEGREES

by Jonathan Katz

when Blake said three of separation
 what he meant was longitude from France to England
 what he really meant was spiritual from George the Third to revolution
 what he really really meant was arcane and celestial
 the dreamy, supernatural and angelic planes inhabited as states
 by citizens ascending in powers of energy, reason, will and design
 (whose imagination burns as deep as Blake's?) one unit Centigrade
 of ocean makes El Niño wet death here
 and desert dry death over there while everywhere
 the heavens open over narrow paths for life on earth
 a few small steps each way in any one of several dimensions
 swallows up the rooted and the grasping and the empathetic species
 petrifies and prints the fossil record of the ones who otherwise
 might have graduated found new work proved worthy of preserving
 an interval of pH and the billion-bodied reef of coral crumbles
 can you name the number of the less than perfect heart beat
 I think at times like this how little of your mouth
 would have to move for me to yearn the pattern of a smile
 whether something from your eyes would be enough to recognize
 what fraction of a decibel if irritation in your voice unbalances me
 what scale of comparability do I not insult
 what level of incompetence in art fail to reveal
 what human weakness do I not betray
 calibrating tragedy and starlight through a lens of mundane love

Rural Tourism GRANTS AWARDED

The Nevada Commission on Tourism recently awarded \$414,854 through its Rural Grants Program in support of programs designed to promote rural Nevada. These grants are disbursed twice a year. This year a total of \$1.4 million has been awarded. Read more at: travelnevada.com/press-releases/rural-nevada-awarded-414854-state-grants-tourism-marketing. Congratulations to two of Nevada's arts and cultural organizations receiving tourism grants:

- **Dam Short Film Society**, Boulder City, \$8,000 – to promote the festival in February 2015. Promotional materials, including video for social media and broadcast news, is estimated to reach more than 1 million people.
- **White Pine Historic Railroad Foundation**, Ely, \$10,000 – to create 20 webisodes about the Nevada Northern Railway that will be posted to the railway's YouTube channel, designed to draw as many as 36,000 visitors to the Ely area.



One-Stop-Shop for Cultural Districts!

The National Cultural Districts Exchange, located on the Americans for the Arts website, provides a plethora of tools and resources to assist in the development and advancement of community Cultural Districts. Defined as well-recognized, labeled areas of a city in which a high concentration of cultural facilities and programs serve as the main anchor of attraction, Cultural Districts strengthen local economies, create an enhanced sense of place and deepen local cultural capacity. Read more at: americansforthearts.org.

GRANT SEASON

GRANT SEASON BEGINS WITH THE NEW YEAR—Continued from front cover

The proposed changes were distributed to grantees for comments, which were then shared with the NAC Board for review prior to its final approval.

ooo

Beginning with the FY16 grant cycle, an **Advance Review** is required for applicants that were declared ineligible or not funded in FY15, or have not applied for a NAC grant in the past two years. Staff will review narrative and budget sections, and support material for consistency and compliance. Feedback is provided to the applicant in time to meet the final submission deadline.

ooo

Starting in FY16, the **Artist Fellowship Program** will operate on a two-year cycle. This change provides staff more time to assist fellowship applicants, increases the number of Artist Fellowships awarded in each category from three to four, redistributes administrative costs, allows for public presentations/lectures by fellowship panelists, and allows for the establishment of a Fellowship Project Grant.

YEAR 1: FY16

- Visual Arts Fellowships – four grants @ \$5,000 each
- Visual Arts Honorable Mentions – two grants @ \$500 each

YEAR 2: FY17

- Literary Arts Fellowships – four grants @ \$5,000 each
- Literary Arts Honorable Mentions – two grants @ \$500 each
- Performing Arts Fellowships – four grants @ \$5,000 each
- Performing Arts Honorable Mentions – two grants @ \$500 each

The new **Fellowship Project Grant** of \$7,000 is available to artists who have received the maximum allowed number of NAC Artist Fellowships and that meet all eligibility requirements of the Artist Fellowship Program. This new category recognizes the commitment of NAC fellows and supports projects that encourage the development of new work to share with the public.

ooo

Folklife Opportunity Grants have been rolled into the quarterly Jackpot Grant category. Jackpot Grants of up to \$1,000 are competitively reviewed, and function as an entry point and a first step towards future successful grant writing and fund development efforts.

ooo

Folklife Apprenticeship Grants have been rolled into the new Living Traditions Grant, which allows traditional artists to determine the nature and duration of their projects, rather than accommodating specific models and timelines.

ooo

The new **Living Traditions Grant** of \$2,500 is designed to accommodate various ways of traditional arts learning, master classes and master-to-master exchanges in specific traditional arts, as well as flexible scheduling. It is open to both individual artists and organizations.

ooo

The **Nevada Circuit Rider Grant** (NCR) is increased by \$500, to \$4,000, to include a post-NCR consultancy “follow-up” three months after the final report submission. This assessment will provide additional guidance/assistance to the grantee, and allow the Community Arts Development Program to determine if an additional NCR grant would be beneficial for the organization. (This increase will not be available until additional dollars are secured through a legislative increase to the agency or a consistent funding source.)

ooo

In FY17, **Partners in Excellence Grants** will offer an optional accessibility component of \$500 to encourage Nevada arts organizations to implement Accessibility Plans that demonstrate compliance with federal laws and accessible programming. Workshops on accessibility topics will be provided in FY16 to prepare organizations for funding in FY17. (This funding will not be available until additional dollars are secured through a legislative increase to the agency or a consistent funding source.)

ooo

Grants Online™

All grant applications and Support Material must be submitted through GO™ at: nac.culturegrants.org.

Questions? Please call either office:
775.687.6680 or 702.486.3700

*“Imagination is more important than knowledge.
Knowledge is limited. Imagination encircles the world.”*

—ALBERT EINSTEIN

IN THIS ISSUE

- 2 NAC Comings + Goings
- 3 Legislative eXhibition Schedule
- 4-5 NAC Awards Grants
- 6 Meet the 2015 Artist Fellows
- 7-8 Nevada Notes + News
- 9-10 National Update



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Please check the NAC website nac.nevadaculture.org for calendar updates.

Through January 29

One Is Silver, the Other Is Gold:
Celebrating 25 Years of Nevada Folklife
Apprenticeships (NTI Exhibit)
Lost City Museum, Overton, 702.397.2193

Through January 30

*Panorama: Selections from the Nevada
Arts Council's Artist Fellowship Program*
(NTI Exhibit)
Great Basin College, Elko, 775.753.2221

Through February 27

*A Brushwork Roundup: Western
Paintings and Drawings by Craig
Sheppard* (NTI Exhibit)
Rancho San Rafael Regional Park Visitor's
Center, Reno, 775.785.4512

Through March 8

*Honest Horses: A Portrait of the Mustang
in the Great Basin* (NTI Exhibit)
Humboldt County Library, Winnemucca
775.623.6388

Through March 13

*Wally's World: The Loneliest Art
Collection in Nevada* (NTI Exhibit)
Pershing County Library, Lovelock
775.273.2216

February 1 - March 25

*Words + Images: Broadides from the
Black Rock Press* (NTI Exhibit)
Truckee Meadows Community College
Art Galleries, Reno

February 13

FY15 Fourth Quarter Jackpot Grants
GO™ submission deadline 5 p.m. PST
(For projects: April 1–June 30, 2015)

February 26

FY16 Arts Learning Project, Partners in
Excellence (Tier I & II), and Project Grants
GO™ submission deadline 5 p.m. PST
(Advance review deadline: January 31,
2015)

March 14

2015 Nevada Poetry Out Loud State Finals
Siena Hotel Spa Casino, Reno

March 20

FY16 Nevada Heritage Award
Nomination
GO™ submission deadline 5 p.m. PST

March 27

FY16 Folklife Living Traditions Grants
GO™ submission deadline 5 p.m. PST

April 9

FY16 Artist Fellowship Grants and
Fellowship Project Grants
GO™ submission deadline 5 p.m. PST

April 22

Arts Advocacy Day at the Legislature
Carson City
Hosted by Nevada Arts Advocates
702.362.8885

CALENDAR



Check out
the schedule and artists for the
**2015 Legislative
eXhibition Series (LXS)**
at the Nevada State Legislature
on page 3.

Start the New Year as a member of the

Arts Education Advocacy Auto Club!
Order your "Rich in Art" license plate
today and support the statewide arts
education activities of the Nevada
Arts Council and VSA arts of Nevada.

Check it out at:
nac.nevadaculture.org.



Nevada Arts News, a quarterly publication of the Nevada Arts Council, is available in print or online at nac.nevadaculture.org, and highlights the news of the arts industry from state, regional and national perspectives. Information about NAC programs, updates on Nevadans making news, and articles from and about the field provide a sense of connection to colleagues and events around town, throughout the state and across the nation. NAC programs and activities are supported by funding from the National Endowment for the Arts.